

CLAIM AMENDMENTS

Claims 1-11 (canceled).

Claim 12 (currently amended):

A miter saw comprising:

a base assembly defining a cutting zone;

a first linkage assembly pivotally coupled to the base assembly;

a second linkage assembly pivotally coupled to the base assembly;

a housing having at least a first region pivotally coupled to the first linkage assembly and at least a second region pivotally coupled to the second linkage assembly, where the first and second linkage assemblies couple the housing to the base so that the housing is moveable toward and away from the cutting zone;

a motor mounted on the housing;

a rotatable blade coupled to be driven by the motor to cut workpieces within the cutting zone when the housing is pivoted toward the cutting zone;

a detection system configured to detect one or more dangerous conditions between a person and the blade; and

a reaction system configured to take one or more predetermined actions in the event a dangerous condition is detected by the detection system, where the reaction system includes at least one brake member configured to engage and stop rotation of the blade in the event a dangerous condition is detected by the detection system;

~~The miter saw of claim 10,~~ where the brake member is configured to revolve about the blade as the housing is moved toward and away from the cutting zone.

Claim 13 (original):

The miter saw of claim 12, where the housing includes one or more arcuate channels, and where the reaction system includes one or more pins disposed to slide within the one or more arcuate channels, and where the brake member is coupled to the one or more pins.

Claim 14 (currently amended):

A miter saw comprising:

a base assembly defining a cutting zone;

a housing coupled to the base assembly to move toward and away from the cutting zone;

a rotatable blade mounted at least partially within the housing and configured to cut workpieces within the cutting zone when the housing is moved toward the cutting zone; and

a motor coupled to drive the blade; and

a safety system including at least one brake member configured to selectively engage and stop the rotation of the blade upon the occurrence of one or more predetermined events, where the brake member is coupled to move in an arcuate path that is generally concentric with the blade as the housing is moved toward and away from the cutting zone.

Claim 15 (original):

The miter saw of claim 14, where the housing includes one or more arcuate channels, and where the brake member is coupled to move along the one or more arcuate channels.

Claim 16 (original):

The miter saw of claim 15, where the safety system includes at least one pin disposed to slide within the one or more arcuate channels, and where the brake member is mounted on the pin.

Claim 17 (original):

The miter saw of claim 14, further comprising at least one linkage assembly to couple the brake member to the housing.

Claim 18 (original):

The miter saw of claim 17, where the linkage assembly is configured to move the brake member in a generally clockwise direction about the blade when the housing is moved in a generally counter-clockwise direction about the base assembly.

Claim 19 (withdrawn):

The miter saw of claim 14, where the brake member is coupled to maintain a substantially constant orientation relative to the blade as the brake member moves in the arcuate path.

Claim 20 (currently amended):

A miter saw comprising:

a base assembly defining a cutting zone;

**a pivot arm assembly pivotally coupled to the base assembly and
pivotal toward and away from the cutting zone;**

**a circular blade supported by the pivot arm assembly and
configured to cut workpieces within the cutting zone when the pivot arm
assembly is pivoted toward the cutting zone;**

a motor configured to rotate the blade; and

**a safety system configured to stop the rotation of the blade upon
the occurrence of one or more dangerous conditions between a person
and the blade, where the safety system includes at least one brake
member configured to brake the blade; and**

**where the safety system includes means for moving the brake
member around the perimeter of the blade in the direction of the blade
rotation when the pivot arm assembly is pivoted away from the cutting
zone, and in the direction opposite the blade rotation when the pivot arm
assembly is pivoted toward the cutting zone.**